

As a frequent traveller on the Washington State ferry system I am concerned at the proposed changes being considered for security measures.

While as yet I realize the regulations haven't been released in their entirety it is being hinted that we will have to submit to security similar to that at the airport. Considering that thousands use the ferries to commute from home to work this has the potential of being a burden that is not acceptable.

If concern is for the safety of the vehicle and the passengers, are we to expect future proposals to stop all vehicles at the entrance to bridges for inspection, so as to preclude someone blowing up the bridge? Later will there be inspection stations upon entering cities? This could get so out of hand as fear escalates.

Freedom from terrorism is obviously something to be sought, but to take away the freedoms of citizens to travel freely could become such a burden that our freedom is seriously compromised.

The additional factor of financial considerations really bolsters my feelings. I see our federal government spending like there is no tomorrow to save today, and taking away needed benefits from the old, needy and disabled because it is spending our money to harass us with great inconvenience for a 'maybe'.

Are we to live in fear from now on? Is that to be our supposed freedom?